REMARKS

Claims 1-14 and 17 are pending in the Application. Claims 1-14 have been amended. Independent claim 1 has been amended to remove the language contained in the preamble that was objected to in the February 14, 2003 Office Action. Similarly, dependent claims 2-14 have been amended in light of the amendment made to the preamble of claim 1. In addition, claim 1 has been amended to recite the feature that an array of unit cells arranged in rows and columns is disposed on a chip for receiving a conductive solution including charged biological materials. Finally, specification has been amended to update the status of the priority applications/patents.

Claims 1-14 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the preamble contained in claim 1 (and elsewhere) was objected to by the Examiner. In response thereto, Applicants have amended claims 1-14 to remove the objected to language in the preamble. Claim 2 also stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. In response thereto, Applicants have amended claim 2 to remove the objected to language.

Claims 1-3, 7-10, 12, and 13 are rejected under § 102(b) and § 102(e)(2) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,672,412 (Wei et al.). These same claims are also rejected under § 102(e)(2) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,962,856 (Zhao et al.). Without conceding the propriety of the § 102 rejections, Applicants submit that the rejection of the above-identified claims is obviated in light of the amendments made to claim 1. Claim 1 has been amended and now recites the feature that the array of unit cells is disposed on a

chip for receiving a conductive solution including charged biological materials. Neither Wei et al. nor Zhao et al. disclose or otherwise suggest this feature.

Wei et al. discloses a Schottky diode infrared imaging array fabricated on a silicon substrate. Unit electrodes are formed in an array on a substrate. Each unit cell includes a photosensitive Schottky barrier metal electrode formed on a semiconductor substrate defining a Schottky junction therewith, as well as a row electrode and column electrode that are electrically insulated form the Schottky electrode and capacitively coupled thereto. The array of Wei et al. is used as an infrared imaging array and is not adapted to receive a conductive solution that includes charged biological materials.

Similarly, Zhao et al. discloses an active matrix imaging array that is used for radiography and fluoroscopy. The detector includes a large area, flat panel that fits into conventional x-ray room buck trays. The array includes a plurality of pixels, each pixel comprising a pixel electrode, storage capacitor, and a thin film transistor. There is no disclosure or suggestion in Zhao et al. of active matrix imaging array being formed on a chip adapted to receive a conductive solution including charged biological materials.

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Applicants submit that the claims are allowable over the prior art of record. A notice of allowability is respectfully requested. Should Examiner have any questions concerning this Amendment and Response, please contact the undersigned attorney at (949) 737-2926.

Respectfully submitted,

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